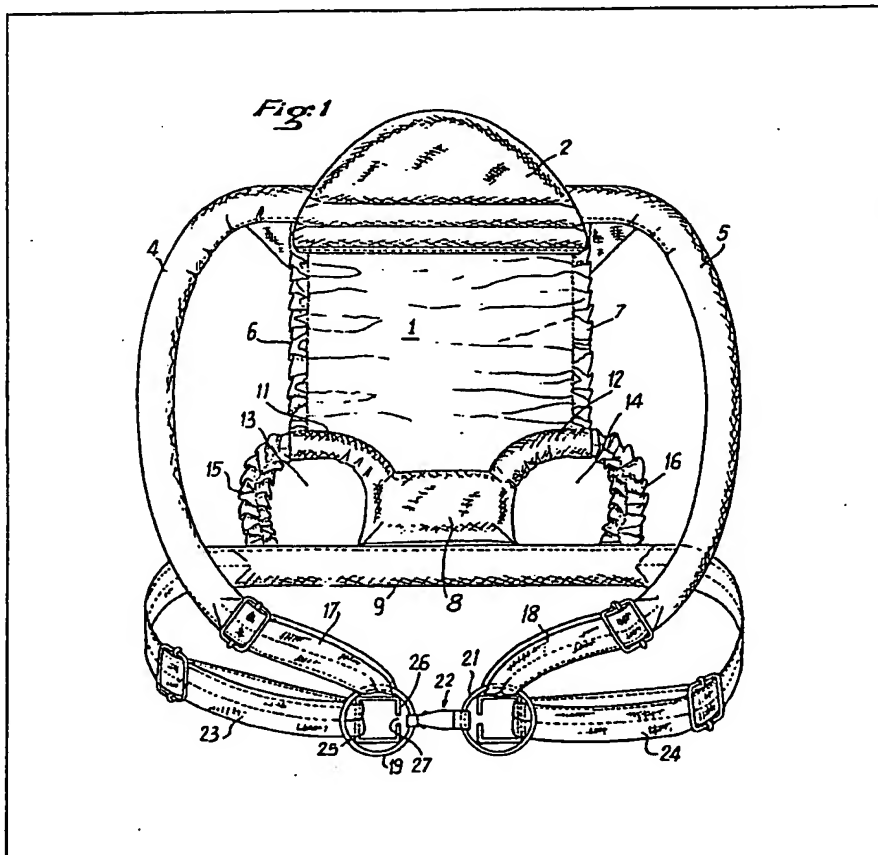


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## (54) Baby-carrier

(57) The present invention relates to a baby carrier comprising a back 1 made of fabric which has in its lower part two lateral openings 13, 14 for the passage of the infant's legs, two straps 4, 5 fastened between the top part of the back 1 and to the two respective parts 19, 21 of a buckle fastener, via adjustable connecting straps, and two other straps 23, 24 respectively connecting the two parts of the buckle to the ends of the lower part of the back, wherein each lateral opening for the passage of a leg is bordered, on three of this sides only, namely its upper side, its inner side and its lower side, by a padded support member 8, 9 made of relatively rigid elastic material, and on its fourth, outer side, by a strip of stretch fabric 15, 16.



about which each of the straps 23, 24 may pass, in a first position of fastening. Each part 19, 21 of the buckle also comprises a second rod 26 parallel to the first rod 25 and separated into two sections by a central gap 27. This gap enables the straps 23, 24 to be passed therethrough, so as possibly to place this strap in a second position of fastening, as shown in Figure 2. In this position, the strap 23, 24 passes around the second split rod 26 and through the space between this rod and the outer circle of the buckle. It is thus possible additionally to shorten the useful length of each of the straps 23, 24 by placing the latter in the second position of fastening illustrated in Figure 2.

#### 15 CLAIMS

1. A supple baby carrier comprising a supple back made of fabric which has in its lower part two lateral openings for the passage of the infant's legs, two straps fastened on the one hand to the top part of the supple back and on the other hand to the two respective parts of a buckle fastener, via adjustable connecting straps, and two other straps respectively connecting the two parts of the buckle to the ends of the lower part of the supple back, wherein each lateral opening for the passage of a leg is bordered, on three of its sides only, namely its upper side, its inner side and its lower side, by a padded support member made of relatively rigid elastic material, and on its fourth, outer side, by a strip of stretch fabric.

2. A baby carrier as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the fourth side of each lateral opening may be constituted by a strip of fabric made of stretch yarn or a strip of gathered, non-stretch fabric enclosing a length of elastic.

3. A baby carrier as claimed in either one of Claims 1 and 2, wherein each part of the buckle fastener has two positions of fastening for the connecting strap, these positions being respectively defined by a first continuous rod and by a second rod, parallel to the first, separated into two sections by a central gap, so that the strap may pass either around the first rod only, or around the second split rod and the first rod.

4. A supple baby carrier substantially as described hereinabove and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

## SPECIFICATION

## Baby-carrier

5 The present invention relates to improvements in or relating to supple baby carriers.

Supple baby carriers are already known which enable a very young child to be carried on one's back or chest. These baby carriers generally comprise a  
10 supple back made of fabric, moulding the curve of the infant's body, with a head rest at its top end, and, at its bottom end, two lateral openings for passage of the infant's legs. At the top of this back, the ends of two straps which are adapted to pass over the  
15 wearer's shoulders, are fastened on either side of the head rest. These straps are connected, at their other ends, to the two parts of a buckle fastener via connecting straps which are adjustable in length. Other adjustable straps respectively connect the two  
20 parts of the buckle fastener to the ends of the lower part of the supple back.

The openings provided for the passage of the legs are defined, in these known baby carriers, by edges constituted by padded support members of elastic  
25 material (plastics foam for example), but which are nevertheless rigid. The section of passage defined by these padded support members is therefore not easily adaptable to the different sizes of the legs of the infant placed in the baby carrier. In the case of  
30 infants having large legs, this results in said padded support members exerting on said legs an undesirable pressure which may lead to a certain irritation.

It is essentially an object of the present invention to remedy this drawback by providing a baby carrier  
35 which offers increased comfort for the infant around its legs.

To this end, this supple baby carrier comprising a supple back made of fabric which has in its lower  
40 part two lateral openings for the passage of the infant's legs, two straps fastened on the one hand to the top part of the supple back and on the other hand to the two respective parts of a buckle fastener, via adjustable connecting straps, and two other straps  
45 respectively connecting the two parts of the buckle to the ends of the lower part of the supple back, is characterised in that each lateral opening for the passage of a leg is bordered, on three of its sides only, namely its upper side, its inner side and its  
50 lower side, by a padded support member made of relatively rigid elastic material, and on its fourth outer side, by a strip of stretch fabric.

According to a further feature of the invention, the fourth side of each lateral opening may be constituted by a strip of fabric made of stretch yarn or by a  
55 strip of gathered non-stretch material enclosing a length of elastic.

The invention offers the advantage that the section of passage of each lateral opening may easily be adapted to different leg sizes of the infants carried,  
60 without their being uncomfortable, due to the provision of the outer, stretchable fourth side.

According to a further feature of the invention, each part of the buckle fastener has two positions of fastening for the connecting strap, these positions  
65 being respectively defined by a first continuous rod

and by a second rod, parallel to the first, separated into two sections by a central gap, so that the strap may pass either around the first rod only, or around the second split rod and the first rod.

70 This arrangement makes it possible additionally to adjust the length of each connecting strap, the variation in length procured by each part of the buckle being equal to twice the distance between the two rods.

75 The invention will be more readily understood on reading the following description with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which :

*Figure 1* is a view of a supple baby carrier according to the invention, shown flat with its buckle  
80 fastener closed.

*Figure 2* is a partial plan view of the buckle fastener, showing the second position of fastening of the connecting straps.

Referring now to the drawings, the baby carrier  
85 shown in *Figure 1* comprises a supple back 1 made of fabric which moulds the curve of the infant's body. A head rest 2 is removably fixed to the top part of this supple back, said head rest being more particularly fixed to an upper horizontal padded  
90 support member 3 constituting the upper edge of the back 1. This padded support member 3 extends laterally on either side to form two straps 4 and 5.

The back 1 made of fabric is limited laterally by elastic gathers 6 and 7.

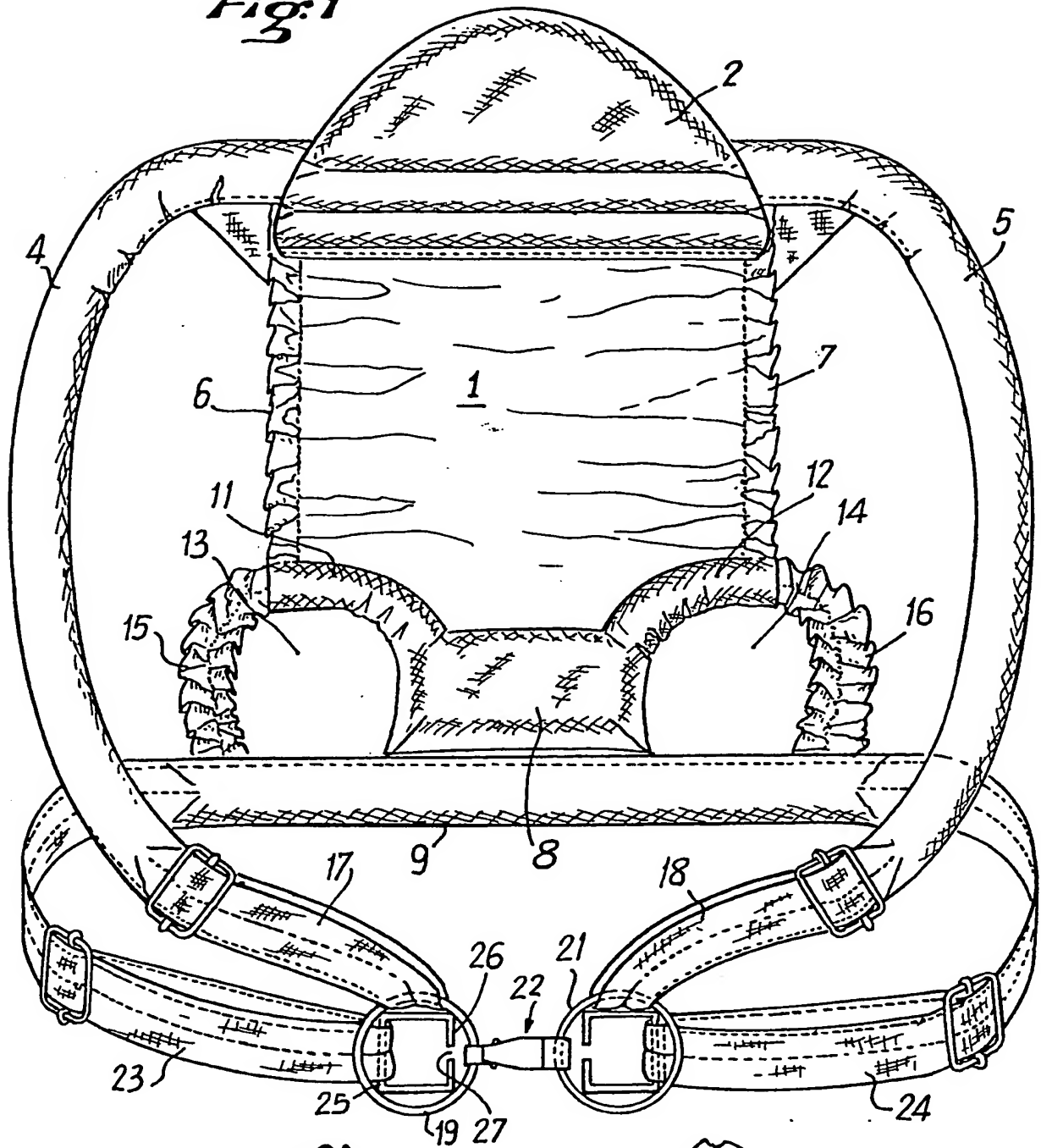
95 The back 1 terminates in its bottom part in a small central cushion 8, made of elastic material, itself stitched to a lower horizontal padded support member 9. The central cushion 8 extends in its upper part and horizontally by two outwardly extending padded  
100 support members 11 and 12. These padded support members 11 and 12 thus form with the edges of the central cushion 8 and the lateral parts of the lower padded support member 9 two lateral openings 13 and 14 intended for the passage of the legs of the  
105 infant carried in the baby-carrier.

According to the invention, the lateral openings  
110 13, 14 are closed, towards the outside, by respective strips 15 and 16 of stretch fabric. From the foregoing, it is thus seen that each of the lateral openings 13, 14 is bordered on three of its sides, namely its upper, inner and lower sides, by a relatively rigid padded support member made of elastic material, and on its  
115 fourth, outer side, by a strip 15, 16 of a stretch fabric. Consequently, the section of the lateral openings 13, 14 may vary easily as a function of the size of the infant's legs, without the infant suffering discomfort.

Each of the strip 15, 16 of stretch fabric may be made of a strip of gathered fabric enclosing a length of elastic, or of a simple strip of longitudinally  
120 stretchable fabric.

The straps 4, 5 are respectively connected, via connecting straps 17, 18, to the two parts 19, 21 of a buckle fastener generally designated by reference  
125 22. Other adjustable straps 23, 24 extend respectively between the two ends of the lower padded support member 9 of the back 1 and the two parts 19, 21 of the buckle 22.

Each of the two parts 19, 21 of this buckle, of which the outer shape may be circular, comprises a first  
130 rod 25 constituted by a chord of the outer circle and

*Fig. 1**Fig. 2*